

AT&T Statement on The Cybersecurity Act of 2013

U.S. Senators Jay Rockefeller (D-WV) and John Thune (R-SD) today introduced "The Cybersecurity Act of 2013." The following statement may be attributed to Tim McKone, AT&T Executive Vice President of Federal Relations:

"AT&T supports S. 1353, the Cybersecurity Act of 2013, which takes a bi-partisan approach and preserves the role of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in working with the private sector on cybersecurity standards and best practices. The bill also focuses on other important issues where there is widespread agreement such as enhancing cybersecurity R&D, awareness and education. Most importantly, the bill clarifies the importance of truly voluntary standards, developed jointly with industry and not a precursor to future regulation.

"While we still believe that the most important thing government can do to enhance cybersecurity is to pass information sharing legislation, we commend Chairman Rockefeller and Senator Thune for their leadership and in reaching a compromise that we hope will end debate on how to address critical infrastructure standards and best practices and allow cybersecurity legislation to move forward."